

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1. A method of finishing a gypsum drywall installation, the method comprising:
 - 5 providing drywall joint compound;
 providing a continuous strand having a plurality of layers of nonwoven fibrous cellulosic material, wherein at least one individual layer of said plurality of layers of nonwoven fibrous cellulosic material contains an accelerant effective for accelerating the setting time of the
 - 10 drywall joint compound, and wherein said plurality of layers of nonwoven fibrous cellulosic material are at least twisted so as to form said continuous strand;
 feeding said continuous strand into a cutter and cutting said continuous strand into sufficiently small pieces motivated by air
 - 15 pressure so as to generate a stream of cellulosic fibers wherein at least some of said cellulosic fibers contain the accelerant;
 generating a stream of said drywall joint compound motivated by air pressure; and
 combining the stream of drywall joint compound with the stream
 - 20 of cellulosic fibers while applying the combined streams onto a predetermined portion of the drywall installation being finished.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the accelerant comprises dry
25 powdered hydrous calcium sulfate.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein finishing comprises filling spaces
 between adjacent dry wall panels with the combined streams of drywall joint compound and cellulosic fibers.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the continuous strand further comprises an effective fire retardant material.
5. A continuous strand of fibrous cellulosic material for combining with drywall joint compound, said strand comprising:
a plurality of layers of nonwoven fibrous cellulosic material having a width dimension and a length dimension; and
an accelerant carried by at least one individual layer of said plurality of layers of nonwoven fibrous cellulosic material, wherein said accelerant effectively promotes setting of the drywall joint compound.
6. The continuous strand of fibrous cellulosic material of claim 5, wherein said strand is cut into small pieces before combining with drywall joint compound.
7. The continuous strand of fibrous cellulosic material of claim 5, wherein said plurality of layers of nonwoven fibrous cellulosic material comprises relatively thin individual layers of nonwoven fibrous cellulosic material.
8. The continuous strand of fibrous cellulosic material of claim 5, wherein said plurality of layers of nonwoven fibrous cellulosic material are twisted so as to form said continuous strand.
9. The continuous strand of fibrous cellulosic material of claim 5, wherein said plurality of layers of nonwoven fibrous cellulosic material are folded and twisted so as to form said continuous strand.
10. The continuous strand of fibrous cellulosic material of claim 5, wherein said accelerant comprises dry powdered hydrous calcium sulfate.

11. The continuous strand of fibrous cellulosic material of claim 5, wherein said accelerant comprises dry powdered hydrous calcium sulfate and further comprising an inert filler.
- 5 12. The continuous strand of fibrous cellulosic material of claim 5, wherein said accelerant comprises dry powdered hydrous calcium sulfate and further comprising an inert filler selected from mica, dolomite, and combinations thereof.
- 10 13. An air pressure operated spray gun for drywall mud, said spray gun comprising:
- 15 a gun housing having a gun air inlet for therethrough receiving air under pressure, said air inlet being fluidly connected to a main air chamber, a flow control valve actuated by a trigger and positioned in said main air chamber so as to control passage of air from said main air chamber to a mud mixing chamber, to a cutter air chamber, or to a combination thereof, a mud inlet for receiving a flow of drywall mud and fluidly connected to said mud mixing chamber, a self-actuated mud valve responsive to air pressure and positioned to control mud flow
- 20 from said mud mixing chamber to a mud discharge nozzle fluidly connected for therethrough discharging a stream of mud spray responsive to the air pressure; and
- 25 a cutter housing positioned on said gun housing and including a cutter air inlet fluidly connected to the cutter air chamber in said gun housing, an air motor fluidly connected to said cutter air inlet and responsive to air pressure received through said cutter air inlet, a cutter feed inlet for receiving a continuous strand of fibrous cellulosic material, at least one feed roller positioned adjacent said cutter feed inlet and operatively coupled to said air motor by one or more feed roller drive
- 30 gears for feeding the continuous strand of fibrous cellulosic material to

a cutter wheel having a plurality of cutting blades thereon, said cutter wheel operatively coupled to said air motor and positioned adjacent said at least one feed roller so as to receive and cut the fed continuous strand into small particles, wherein said one or more feed roller drive
5 gears provide reduction in rpm generated by said air motor so that said at least one feed roller rotates at lower rpm than said cutter wheel, a cutter discharge outlet adjacent said cutter wheel and downstream therefrom so as to therethrough discharge the small particles of cut
10 strand responsive to air pressure in a stream of fibrous cellulosic particles, wherein said cutter discharge outlet is positioned relative to said gun housing so as to therein enclose said mud discharge nozzle to thereby mix the stream of mud spray with the stream of fibrous
cellulosic particles into a combined discharge stream of mud spray
15 containing fibrous cellulosic particles.